

Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund [WT ISSF] (2014/16)

Proposals for Public Engagement Activities

The University has been awarded a Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund (ISSF) to support a portfolio of biomedical research activities that harmonises with our research strategy and provides added value to our research activities. The scheme is open to staff and postgraduate students across the University for Public Engagement and outreach projects around the general theme of biomedical research and health, but must be led by an academic member of staff in FLS or FMHS. **Projects involving colleagues in FEPS or Humanities are encouraged and will be given priority.**

We would like to see imaginative and substantial projects that engage a broad range of the public in a variety of ways. For example, these could involve activities with sections of the public who are not usually reached by engagement activities, taking a novel approach with groups who do traditionally engage, or combining science and art in unusual sites or with a striking theme. Established activities will be supported, but we would invite practitioners to use the opportunity to refresh and renew the activity in an innovative way.

Applicants should strictly adhere to the details in the box below

Deadline dates:

- **23 November 2015** (*outcome announced by 11 Dec 2015*)
- **4 April 2016** (*outcome announced by 22 April 2016*)

- **Application format:** maximum 1 page of A4; Ariel 10 pt, 2cm margins. Please note that additional pages to the outline will not be considered and may result in applications **not** being reviewed.

- **Application content** (must contain the following sub-headings):
 - Applicant names and Faculty/School
 - Supervisor's name (if applicable)
 - Indicate whether previous ISSF funding has been received for PE activity
 - Details of planned public engagement activity
 - Date of the planned public engagement activity
 - Amount requested and justification of the request
 - Plans for future funding and evaluation

- **Submission:** applications should be submitted to: issf@manchester.ac.uk

- **Further details:** for further details of all ISSF calls see:
<http://www.intranet.ls.manchester.ac.uk/finance/funding/wtissf.aspx>

Applications will be assessed on the following criteria so should be reflected in the application:

1. Significant involvement of biomedical researchers to explore aspects of their work
2. Imaginative approaches that will raise public awareness and stimulate dialogue with clearly defined audiences which might include, but are not limited to, hard to reach groups, local community groups, patients, parents, children, young adults, on-line communities, under-represented groups, healthcare professionals, carers etc.
3. How the proposal will meet the targeted audience through clearly defined objectives
4. Ambitious and realistic aims identified (reviewers will assess the depth of the engagement as well as the numbers of people reached)
5. Good value for money and clarity on how the budget will be used
6. What concrete plans there are for the next steps in the project and what legacy will be left.

The **maximum award value is £5,000** per application. **Applications requesting part funding (to be combined with funds from other sources) are welcome.** Funds must be spent within six months of the award.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to communicate their ideas with members of the ISSF Public Engagement Advisory Group (PEAG) the membership of which is: the FLS Associate Dean for Social Responsibility (Prof Amanda Bamford), the FMHS Associate Dean for Social Responsibility (Prof Chris Cutts), Bella Starling NOWGEN Director of Public Programmes, Ceri Harrop NOWGEN Public Programmes Manager, Hawys Williams Centre for Engagement and Involvement Manager.

Assessment procedure and post award process

Applications will be assessed by the ISSF PEAG Committee and the ISSF Committee members: (Prof Matthew Lambon-Ralph [Associate Vice-President for Research]; Profs Ian Roberts and Chris Thompson [FLS]; Profs Mike Dixon, David Ray, Neil Hanley, Jane Worthington and Rebecca Elliott [FMHS]). Funds must be spent within six months of the award.

Awardees will be required to submit a progress report at the end of the public engagement activity to inform the UoM annual report to the Wellcome Trust. **Awardees will also actively participate in an evaluation process.** All publications benefitting from ISSF funding will be required to acknowledge ISSF funding in the publication. The outcome of all ISSF calls will be published on the intranet at: <http://www.intranet.ls.manchester.ac.uk/finance/funding/wtissf.aspx>

Enquiries

Please direct any enquiries to either:

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Cath Barrow (FMHS) Tel: x55267 catherine.barrow@manchester.ac.uk

[This version supercedes any previous call](#)